

Claims:

1. The use of a compound, which is a serotonin reuptake inhibitor, and another compound, which is a GABA_B receptor antagonist, inverse agonist or partial agonist
5 for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of depression, anxiety disorders and other affective disorders, such as generalized anxiety disorder, panic anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, acute stress disorder, post traumatic stress disorder and social anxiety disorder, eating disorders such as bulimia, anorexia and obesity, phobias, dysthymia, premenstrual syndrome, cognitive disorders, impulse
10 control disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, drug abuse or any other disorder responsive to serotonin reuptake inhibitors.
2. The use of a GABA_B receptor antagonist, inverse agonist or partial agonist for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition to be used in combination with a
15 serotonin reuptake inhibitor.
3. The use of a GABA_B receptor antagonist, inverse agonist or partial agonist for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition useful for augmenting and/or providing faster onset of the therapeutic effect of a serotonin reuptake inhibitor.
20
4. The use according to any of claims 2-3 wherein the serotonin reuptake inhibitor is used for the treatment of depression, anxiety disorders and other affective disorders, including generalized anxiety disorder, panic anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, acute stress disorder, post traumatic stress disorder or social anxiety disorder, eating
25 disorders such as bulimia, anorexia and obesity, phobias, dysthymia, premenstrual syndrome, cognitive disorders, impulse control disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, drug abuse or any other disorder responsive to a SRI.
5. The use of a compound, which is a serotonin reuptake inhibitor, and a compound,
30 which is a GABA_B receptor antagonist, inverse agonist or partial agonist,

for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of depression, anxiety disorders and other affective disorders, such as generalized

- anxiety disorder, panic anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, acute stress disorder, post traumatic stress disorder and social anxiety disorder, eating disorders such as bulimia, anorexia and obesity, phobias, dysthymia, premenstrual syndrome, cognitive disorders, impulse control disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, drug
5 abuse or any other disorder responsive to serotonin reuptake inhibitors.
6. The use according to any of claims 1-5 wherein a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is used.
- 10 7. The use according to any of claims 1-5 wherein a compound, which is selective for the GABA_B receptor, is used.
8. The use according to any of claims 1-5 or 7 wherein an antagonist or an inverse agonist at the GABA_B receptor is used.
- 15 9. The use according to claim 8 wherein a GABA_B receptor antagonist is used.
10. The use according to any of claims 1-6 wherein the SRI is elected from citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine, sertraline, paroxetine, fluvoxamine, venlafaxine,
20 dapoxetine, duloxetine, vilazodone, nefazodone, imipramin, femoxetine and clomipramine.
11. The use according to claims 1-5 or 7-9 wherein the GABA_B receptor ligand is selected from CGP-71982, CGP-76290, CGP-76291, CGP-35348, CGP-36742, CGP-
25 46381, CGP-52432, CGP-54626, CGP-55845, CGP-62349, SCH 50911, GAS-360, Phaclofen, Saclofen, 2-hydroxysaclofen.
12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound, which is a serotonin reuptake inhibitor, and another compound, which is a GABA_B receptor antagonist,
30 inverse agonist or partial agonist,
and optionally pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or diluents.

13. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the serotonin reuptake inhibitor used is a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor.

14. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the GABA_B antagonist, inverse agonist of partial agonist is selective for the GABA_B receptor.

15. A pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 12 and 14, wherein the GABA_B ligand is a GABA_B receptor antagonist.

16. A pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 12 and 13 characterized in that the serotonin uptake inhibitor is selected from citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine, sertraline, paroxetine, fluvoxamine, venlafaxine, dapoxetine, duloxetine, vilazodone, nefazodone, imipramin, femoxetine and clomipramine.

17. A pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 12 and 14-15 characterized in that the GABA_B ligand is selected from CGP-71982, CGP-76290, CGP-76291, CGP-35348, CGP-36742, CGP-46381, CGP-52432, CGP-54626, CGP-55845, CGP-55845, CGP-62349, SCH 50911, GAS-360, Phaclofen, Saclofen or 2-hydroxysaclofen.

18. A pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 12-17, which is adapted for simultaneous administration of the active ingredients.

19. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 wherein the active ingredients are contained in the same unit dosage form.

20. A pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 12-17 which is adapted for sequential administration of the active ingredients.

21. The pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 18 and 20 wherein the active ingredients are contained in discrete dosage forms.

22. A method for the identification of compounds useful for the treatment of depression, anxiety disorders and other affective disorders, such as generalized anxiety disorder, panic anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, acute stress disorder, post traumatic stress disorder and social anxiety disorder, eating disorders such as bulimia, anorexia and obesity, phobias, dysthymia, premenstrual syndrome, cognitive disorders, impulse control disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, drug abuse or any other disorder responsive to serotonin reuptake inhibitors, comprising, in any order:

(a) measuring the ability of test compounds to inhibit serotonin reuptake and

selecting the compounds that have an IC_{50} value below 20 nM;

(b) measuring the affinity of test compounds to the $GABA_B$ receptor and selecting the compounds,

and thereafter measuring the efficacy of the selected compounds at the $GABA_B$ receptor and selecting the compounds which are antagonists, inverse agonists or

partial agonists at the receptor.

23. A method according to claim 22 wherein the compound has an affinity in step (b) of less than 500 nM;

24. A method according to any of claims 22 and 23, wherein the compound has an affinity in step (b) of less than 100 nM:

25. A compound identified according to any of the claims 22-24.